

man, and at every botanical gathering which included him he was a center of sprightly conversation and good feeling. These qualities, and his untiring and unselfish devotion to his work and to his students, developed for him an amount of personal affection and loyalty that was his chief possession. His place in American botany was sufficiently unique to remain vacant; and his personality will be still more impossible to duplicate.

### A CONVENIENT TRAVELING BALANCE

(WITH TWO FIGURES)

In carrying out certain lines of investigation involving more or less travel, or the establishment of temporary stations remote from well-equipped laboratories, the lack of a compact and readily transportable balance, of a fair degree of sensitiveness, often seriously hampers the progress of the

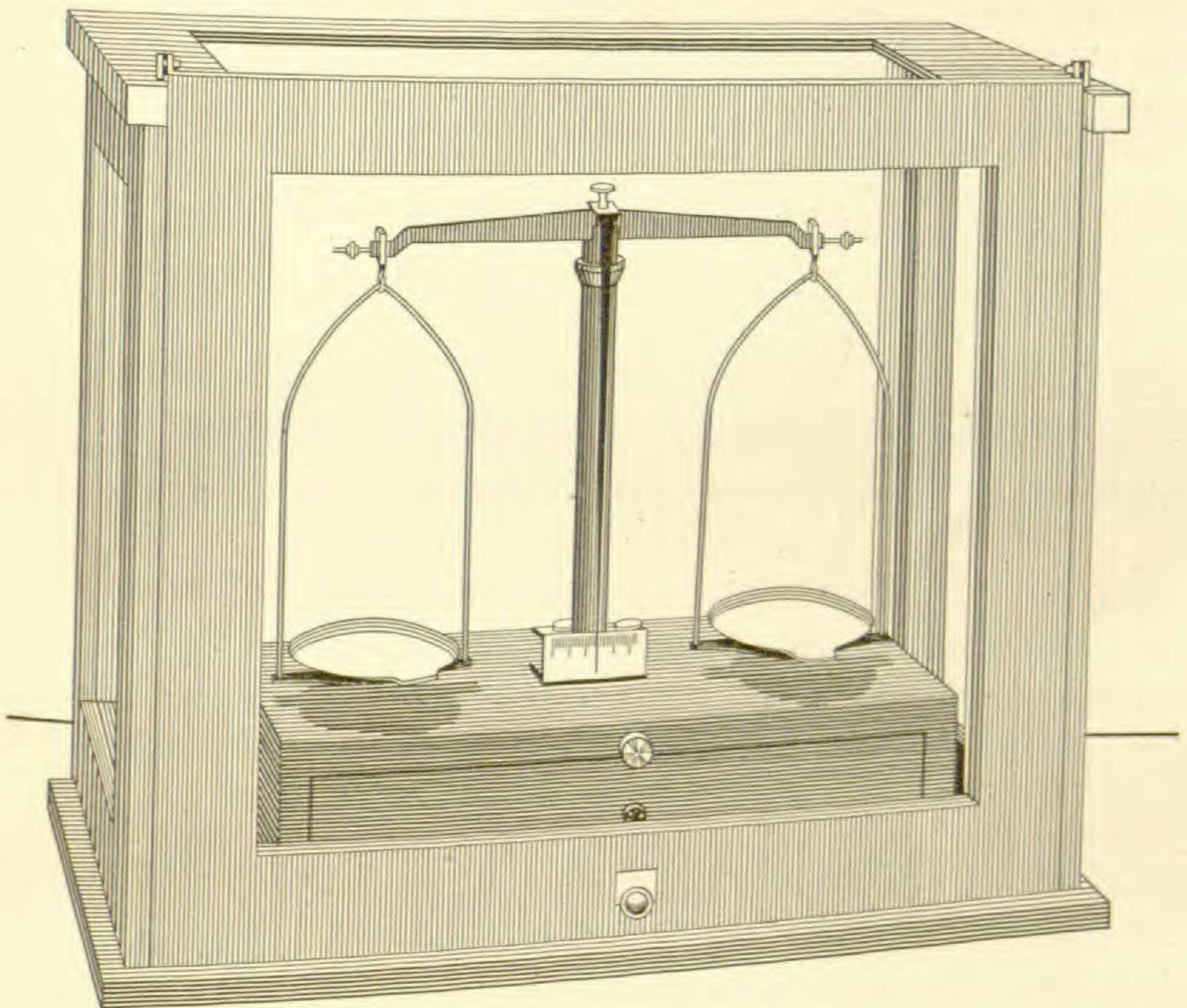


FIG. 1.— Balance set up within the closed case.

work. The ordinary balance inclosed in its glass case is too cumbrous and fragile to be readily transported, yet no dependable weighing can be made except upon a suitable balance properly protected.

In preparing an outfit of apparatus for field use I have devised a convenient form of "knock-down" balance with collapsible case, which in great measure solves the question of a practicable field balance.

The balance proper and the case are entirely independent. From a reliable instrument maker I ordered a good type of laboratory balance fitted with the usual accessories but without the glass case. The pillar is fastened to the box with screws having milled heads and is readily removable. All the metal parts of the balance can be detached and packed safely in the drawer of the box.

The case for this balance is made in six sections, of which those forming

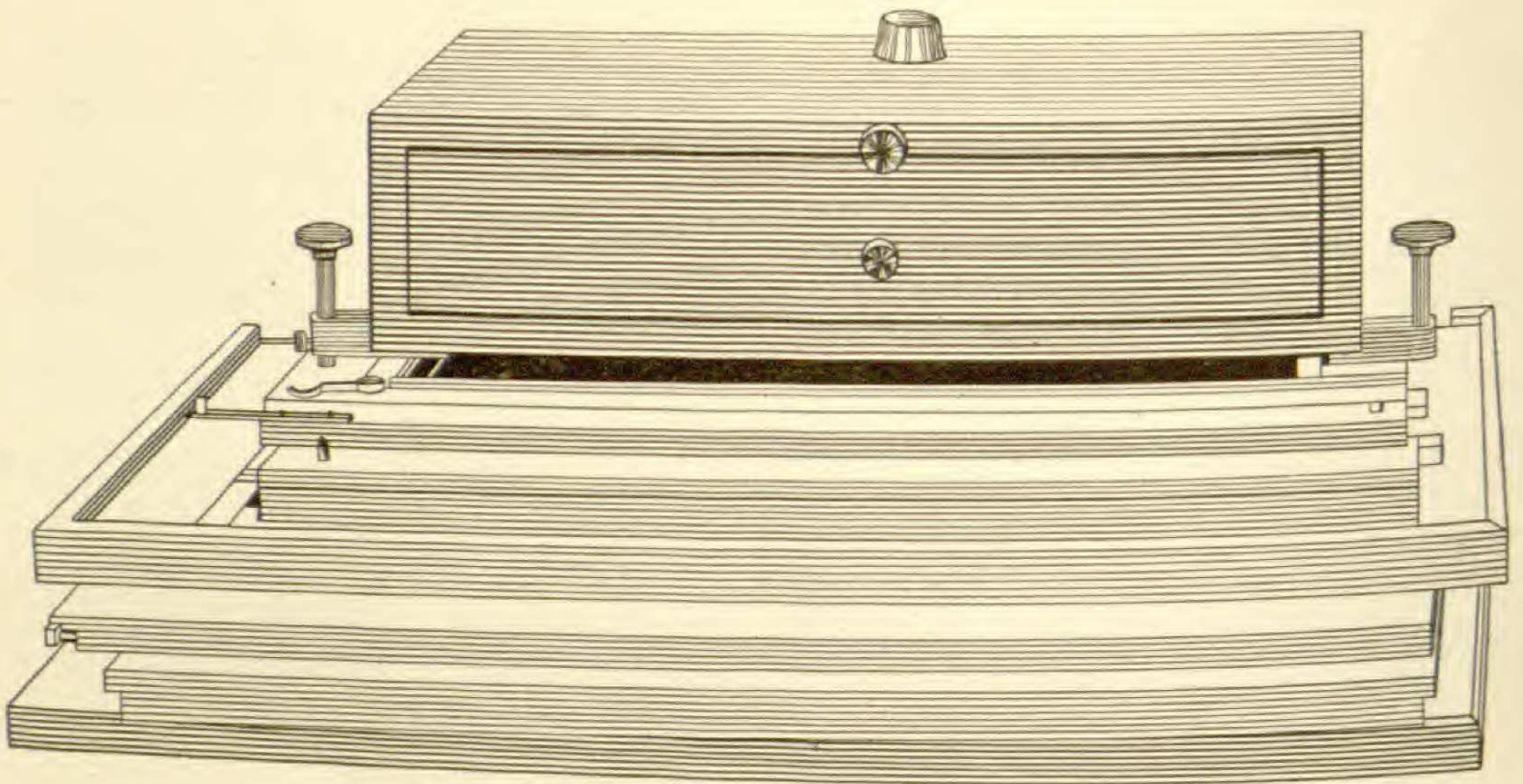


FIG. 2.—Case collapsed and balance packed.

the ends are secured in place on the base by dowel pins. The joints of the case are made dust proof by means of a tongue-and-groove fitting. The door is hinged at the upper corners by means of pivot hinges and swings outward. After all the sections are in place, complete stability is secured by means of small hooks and screw-eyes which lock the various parts together. Instead of glass, clear celluloid is used, which renders the case practically non-breakable.

*Fig. 1* shows the balance set up within the case which is closed; *fig. 2* shows the case collapsed and balance packed. The total weight of balance and case is approximately ten pounds, and in the collapsed form may readily be carried in a trunk or even in a suit case.—W. W. STOCKBERGER, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.